Fire growth and new starts ring in the week

Washington fire crews battled red flag conditions this morning with wind gusts exceeding 50 miles per hour, contributing to notable growth on the Crescent Mountain and Cougar Fires. Meanwhile, large areas of the region were covered in thick smoke, impacting incident air operations and even delaying flights at the Seattle-Tacoma International Airport. As winds calmed in the afternoon, a lightning storm began to pass through eastern Oregon and Washington. By early evening, 26 new starts had been reported, 22 of which are located in Oregon, mainly in the Blue Mountains. Predictive Services show this area at a 20 percent or greater chance of a large fire as a result of mass ignitions from lightning. Initial attack resources are expected to be busy this evening as new fires continue to be detected.

Helpful Links:

PNW Execs blog: pnwexecs.blogspot.com (this page provide execs with easily accessed tools for looking ahead 3 days to 30 days. All are links to NWCC pages but made easy to find on this one page)

NWCC Blog: http://nwccinfo.blogspot.com

Southern Oregon JIC blogspot: http://swojic.blogspot.com

Washington Smoke blog: http://wasmoke.blogspot.com/

7-Day Fire Potential Outlook: https://gacc.nifc.gov/nwcc/content/products/fwx/guidance/DL.pdf

NWCC Morning Brief: https://gacc.nifc.gov/nwcc/content/products/intelligence/MORNINGBRIEF.pdf

https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/photographs/6093/

USA Fire Story Map: https://storymaps.esri.com/stories/usa-wildfires/

Fire related articles:

Klondike Fire Command Moves to Gold Beach

https://www.currypilot.com/news/6456758-151/command-moves-to-gold-beach

Firefighting base at White Pass ski resort becomes 332-person village http://www.yakimaheraid.com/news/local/firefighting-base-at-white-pass-ski-resort-becomes--person/article_c509782a-a2a2-11e8-8555-339939a079bd.html

Firefighters from Puerto Rico helping to battle Miles Fire in S. Oregon

http://www.kptv.com/story/38911233/firefighters-from-puerto-rico-helping-to-battle-miles-fire-in-s-oregon

Maple Fire could serve to rejuvenate Olympic National Forest

https://www.king5.com/mobile/article/news/local/maple-fire-could-serve-to-rejuvenate-olympic-national-forest/281-585467962

Oregonians Can Weigh In On New Proposed Smoke Management Rules

https://www.opb.org/news/article/smoke-management-rules-oregon-public-hearings/

New Wildfire Near Terwilliger Hot Springs Grows

https://www.opb.org/news/article/oregon-eugene-terwilliger-hot-springs-wildfire/

SEA-TAC flights delayed by wildfire smoke

https://www.newsweek.com/wildfire-smoke-sea-tac-airport-flights-delayed-air-quality-washington-state-1079891

Don’:t vacuum while wildfire smoke is in the air, doctors warn

https://www.kgw.com/article/weather/air-quality/dont-vacuum-while-wildfire-smoke-is-in-the-air/283-585771775

Oregon State –

Stubblefield Fire: OSFM Blue Team assumed command of the Stubblefield Fire at 11:00 pm Aug. 17. The fire at 11:00 pm Aug. 17.

Seale: This fire is 14 miles west of Condon and is managed by the OSFM unified command. Six homes are threatened.

Lone Rock: This fire is 4,500 acres with 20 percent containment burning 12 miles east of Condon and under OSFM unified command. The small community meeting is planned for 7:00 pm this evening in Lone Rock. Approximately 40 residences could be threatened.

Jennies Peak Fire: A Type 3 IMT in-briefed yesterday morning to manage this 36,000 acre fire with 0 percent containment located 13 miles south of Fossil. Active fire behavior has been reported and the fuel type is grass and brush. A Type 2 IMT is being in-briefed this afternoon.

Kinzua Complex: A Type 3 IMT is managing multiple fires within a ten mile radius of Fossil, totaling 550 acres and burning in a mix of timber and brush. The complex includes the previously reported 161 McDonald, 57 Kinzua, 158 Ricks Creek, 165 Rancheria, and 172 Oxhead Fires.

Terwilliger Fire: This fire is located on the Willamette National Forest near the Terwilliger Hot Springs and is at 190 acres with no containment. The fire is growing quickly and posing challenges to IA. Movement across crowns was taking place upon IA arrival. A Type 2 team has been ordered and will in-brief tomorrow afternoon. More information can be found at: https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6160/

Mile Post 6 Fire: This fire burned 1,500 acres on the Crooked River National Grasslands six miles south of Madras. All lines are holding and the fire is 50 percent contained.

Tenino Fire: The Tenino fire is burning on the Warm Springs Reservation about 5 miles southwest of Warm Springs. It was reported at 9,436 acres with 60 percent containment and has a Type 3 IMT assigned.

Calamity: 79 acres. Dozer line around the perimeter. Northeastern Oregon.

Incident 185: 10 acres burning on the Malheur NF and exhibiting active fire behavior.

Incident 186: 1 acre burning on the Umatilla NF and exhibiting active fire behavior.

Lookout Fire: 30 ac. Stopped forward spread

Skyline Fire: 170 ac – brush grass timber out of Vale District

Washington State –

Kelly Mountain is burning 44 acres and 55 percent contained, burning on the Colville National Forest. A Local Type 3 team is on the fire is burning about a mile south of the Canadian border. More information can be found here: https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6132/

Kettle River/1904 Fire: started on Aug. 11 on private land, but escaped containment lines and burned onto the Colville NF. It is 49 acres and 75 percent contained. https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6132/

Two unnamed emerging incidents in northeastern Washington. No further information.

LARGE INCIDENTS - WASHINGTON

Cougar Creek/Bannock Lake/White Pine/Lost Fires: CA Type 1 Team 5 (Young) is managing all four fires. Cougar Creek fire is reported at 37,775 acres and Bannock Lake Fire is at 444 acres. Containment is at 35 percent. Due to smoke, IR flights have not been possible for updated acreage. Level 1 evacuations have been expanded to include 2,700 structures on the west flank. The area around Chumstick Road was upgraded to a Level 2 evacuation. Notable growth continues on the area today. One firefighter is being treated for rabies as a precaution after coming in contact with a bat. Washington National Guard resources have been ordered to provide road block support. A filming crew from PBS NOVA will be on site through mid-week. More information is at https://inclweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6053/

Crescent Mountain/McLeod/Doe Fires: (SA IMT 1, IC Wilkins) assumed command today of the 24,983-acre Crescent Mountain Fire is at 34 percent. Due to smoke, IR flights have not been possible for updated acreage. Level 3 evacuation levels remain in effect for 40 homes in the area of Twisp. With high winds, the fire made a significant run to the southwest. MODIS mapping shows heat on the west side of Lake Chelan however, local resources believe this reading is inaccurate and are verifying. Firing operations will be implemented as weather allows on both the Crescent Mountain and McLeod Fire. One bee sting requiring a transport was recorded. A community meeting is planned for 6:30 p.m. Tuesday evening at the Methow Community Center in Twisp. More information is at: https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6093/

Boyds Fire: (NW Team 11, IC Rabe) This fire is more than 3,234 acres with 49 percent containment and burning 3 miles west of Kettle Falls. Focus remains on the west flank where hand and mechanical resources will continue work. Tactical firing operations are also planned for this area. Incident resources assisted with the initial attack of a structural fire about one mile from the perimeter of the Boyds Fire. While there does not appear to be a connection between the two, an investigation is underway. During the response, a firefighter attached to the incident received second degree burns to the back of the hand. Another firefighter was transported after a bee sting. The team is coordinating closely for several products with NW Team 9 on the Horns Mountain Fire. More information can be found here: https://incident/6139/

Horns Mountain: (NW Team 9, IC Goff) This fire on the Canadian border and a grazing allocations, and 33 nearby homes. An evacuation alert has been issued for these residents. British Columbia is providing some heavy equipment and supporting fire operations will be conducted on the west and southwest edges. More information can be found here: